

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250**

**MEMORANDUM TO ALL USDA OFFICES  
(For Posting or Distribution to Bargaining Unit Employees)  
June 14, 2002**

The Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute (FSLMRS), 5 U.S.C. Chapter 71, provides employees represented by a labor organization the right to request a Union representative in conjunction with investigations conducted by agency representatives under certain conditions. This memorandum fulfills the USDA's obligation under the FSLMRS to annually remind employees of their rights and the conditions when those rights may be exercised.

As a bargaining unit employee represented by a labor organization, you have the right to request representation from the labor organization (i.e. Union) at any investigative examination/interview where you reasonably believe the examination may result in disciplinary action being taken against you. You may make this request at any time prior to or during the interview. If requested, the agency may opt to: suspend questioning and grant your request then resume the interview; discontinue the interview; or offer you the choice to proceed with the interview without a Union representative or to forego the interview.

Two sources of additional information concerning your rights to representation are Union officials within the labor organization having exclusive recognition for employees in your work unit, or the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) at [www.flra.gov](http://www.flra.gov).

*Pete Rockx*

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